

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Reckers on 1/27/2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please amend the specification as follows:

[0006] An example of such a data storage alternative is disclosed in the commonly owned, co-pending application "SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR REPRESENTING UNITS OF INFORMATION MANAGEABLE BY A HARDWARE/SOFTWARE INTERFACE SYSTEM BUT INDEPENDENT OF PHYSICAL REPRESENTATION", U.S. Patent Application No. 10/647,058 (~~not yet assigned~~) (Atty. Docket No. MSFT – 1748). This co-pending application was filed on August 21, 2003 and discloses a data store that unifies storage into a single database. This database is the one place where all the data is stored; there is only one way to represent data to the database and only one way to query for data. By replacing antiquated file systems with this modern database technology, the data store will be easily searchable, more reliable, more accessible, and more resilient.

[0049] The storage platform utilized by the present invention extends and broadens the data platform beyond the kinds of existing file systems discussed above, and is designed to be a store for all types of data. A data store designed to store all types of data may be referred to as a universal data store. An example of a universal data store suitable for use with the present invention is described in the commonly owned, co-pending application “SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR REPRESENTING UNITS OF INFORMATION MANAGEABLE BY A HARDWARE/SOFTWARE INTERFACE SYSTEM BUT INDEPENDENT OF PHYSICAL REPRESENTATION”, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/647,058 (~~not yet assigned~~) (Atty. Docket No. MSFT – 1748) filed on August 21, 2003, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

[0063] The universal data schema provides a universal foundation that establishes a conceptual framework for creating and organizing items and properties. The universal data schema defines certain special types of items and properties, and the features of these special foundational types from which subtypes can be further derived. The use of this universal data schema allows a programmer to conceptually distinguish items (and their respective types) from properties (and their respective types). Moreover, the universal data schema sets forth the foundational set of properties that all items may possess as all items (and their corresponding item Types) are derived from this foundational item in the universal data schema (and its corresponding item Type). By storing each item according to this universal data schema, a shell browser is able to interpret and present each item in the data store along with its basic properties to the user. An

example of a universal data schema suitable for use with the present invention is described in the commonly owned, co-pending application "SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR REPRESENTING UNITS OF INFORMATION MANAGEABLE BY A HARDWARE/SOFTWARE INTERFACE SYSTEM BUT INDEPENDENT OF PHYSICAL REPRESENTATION", U.S. Patent Application No. 10/647,058 (~~not yet assigned~~) (Atty. Docket No. MSFT – 1748) filed on August 21, 2003, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to BORIS PESIN at telephone number (571)272-4070.

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